The RedBird Word

Vol. 36 November 2002 No. 3

DANGER

Packed inside this issue:
Double Truck: Student Rights
Entertainment: 8 mile and local bands
News: Sniper Attack
Sports: AHS Hockey

NOTICE
NO SMOKING

SAFETY FIRST
DON'T TAKE CHANCES

NOTICE
THESE DOORS MUST BE KEPT CLOSED

NOTICE
NO LOITERING

NOTICE
DO NOT BLOCK DOOR

NOTICE
THE USE OF ALCOHOL ON THE PREMISES WILL MEAN IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL

NOTICE
HELP KEEP THIS PLACE CLEAN

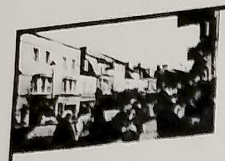
NOTICE
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

NOTICE
ALL VISITORS MUST GET PASS AT OFFICE

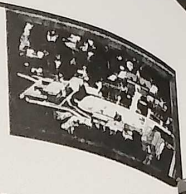
NOTICE
DO NOT BLOCK DOOR

Alton High School
2200 College Ave.
Alton Illinois 62002

NOTICE
EMERGENCY EXIT



A Walk in Our World



Give thanks for your family

Sarahjay Whitney, co-editor and Andrea Zimmermann, co-editor

Take a walk through the corridors of Alton High School and discover the diversity of families that are represented here.

So what exactly *is* the real definition of family? Webster's Dictionary defines it as, "a group of persons of common ancestry" or "a social group composed of parents and their children" In today's society a family is not only comprised of parents and their kids, but of every other person in the community plus their dog.

There are so many different types of families: families with stepparents, families with another relation acting as the parents due to a death, families with two moms or two dads, and families with single parents. The WB's hit show "7th Heaven" is another good example of the varieties of family. The Camden family now includes Mr. and Mrs. Camden, their seven kids, Happy the dog and three of Mary's ex-boyfriends.

Whatever the present family situation, I think people should be more appreciative towards the people in their families. It seems like with America's fast-paced life, not enough time is spent at home, relaxing. No one on their deathbed is going to say, "I wished I'd worked just a bit harder and stayed longer at the office."

Often the dinner table becomes a filling station; the automobile becomes a taxi cab. There is no time for fellowship between siblings or parents. The house evolves into a mere hotel where people eat, sleep and go about their way. With so many researchers reporting on the importance of a strong family life, why don't we listen?

If everyone remembered to thank all the special people in their lives then no on would be bitter. If children remembered to hug their parents, then parents would become more understanding.

What we're getting at is when was the last time that the person who cooks dinner or the people who make sure the clothes are clean for school got a "thank you"? With the holiday season upon us, now is the best time to reach over and let someone know how much they are loved.

***Voice your opinion of the RedBird Word by sending a letter to the co-editors in room 401 or send an e-mail at RedBird_Word@yahoo.com**

RBW Roster

Co-editors	Andrea Zimmermann
	Sarahjay Whitney
Managing editor	Courtney Schien
News editor	Kenny Ross
Features editor	Andrea Zimmermann
Entertainment editor	Carl McMullen
Sports editor	Blake Schrumpf
Copy editor	Alex McMullen
Business editor	Amanda Thomas
Cover story editor	Sarahjay Whitney
Humor editor	Joe Hilgard
Backpage editor	Amy Stabell
Senior editors	Rickey Millitello
	Anthony Gater
Reporters	Marissa Leary
	Jeff McDonald
	Megan Williams
	Kristin Hammond
	Kali Tegel
	Erin Hill
	Brandy Robinson
	Kriss Redden
Photographer	Sarah Cleaves
Webpage editor	Zac West
Newspaper advisor	Annice Brave
Printing advisor	Robert Tucker

Mission Statement of RBW

We strive to present the student body with information that is entertaining, diverse and professional.

Show your family and friends how much you care by buying a Yuletide greeting.

On Sale for $1
from any RBW staff member

Fill out and return to room 401
by
December 4

Outdated press laws limit student abilities

Amy Stabell, backpage editor and Sarah Whitney, co-editor-in-chief

Do not be fooled students of Alton High. There is no freedom of school presses. Recently, I have shocked many of my friends with this knowledge. The Supreme Court ruled in the Hazelwood v. Kuhlmier case of 1989, that school newspapers are not a " forum of public expression," and that any "suspected disruption of the school day" can be censored.

School boards may choose to allow freedom of student presses, or open forum. Unfortunately, the Alton School Board has not allowed The RedBird Word to be an open forum. Our board policy states, "Any statement inconsistent with the school's educational mission can be censored." This means the administrators have free reign to cut out anything they want as long as it's reasonable.

To begin with, what is reasonable to one person, is not necessarily reasonable to the next person. The principal of Hazelwood East in 1989 censored three articles from the school newspaper dealing with teen depression, divorce, and teen pregnancy. Today in 2002, these topics are reasonable. Please feel free to read the article on Teen Depression in the Features section of this paper.

The board feels that if open forum was allowed, they would be creating the risk of casting the school in a negative light. This is an illogical feeling.

Annice Brave, the journalism advisor at AHS is one of the most qualified teachers in the district. She became a National board of Certifiable teacher in 2001 This year, along with Mr. John Kline, she won Western Illinois University's "Most inspirational teacher award". Also, more than half the staff of The RedBird Word consists of Nation Honor Society members, hardly the type to start a tabloid.

Furthermore, even without open forum, students are still held accountable for libel and obscenity. A victim of libel by any publication can take the offender. If the offender is a minor they can take their parents to court. This is the first thing journalism students learn when they study "Student press law" in chapter 23 of their journalism one books. If the board were to allow public forum, they would lose their liability for the RBW. This is a good thing, because it prepares Journalism students for the harsh realities of the working world.

Finally, it is nearly impossible to teach journalism without full freedom of speech rights. During the first week of a journalism class, students learn the news values: proximity, prominence, emotion, conflict, sex, drama, consequence, progress, immediacy, and oddity. Students of AHS are unable to incorporate these values fully until college, putting them a step behind other students who come from schools who allow free student expression. According to the student press law center's website (www.splc.org), several states, such as Arkansas, California, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, and Massachusetts, have recognized this logic and passed anti-Hazelwood laws which protect student free expression rights.

Tattooing is an artform

Brandy Robinson, reporter

Raging hormones, unpredictable mood swings and uncontrollable urges.....ahhhh, the symptoms of being a teenager!

In an age of changing standards and lessening morals, we all come to a point where we need to find ourselves. The New Wave era of incense and innocence is over. It's natural for teens to want to express themselves. It's human nature.

However, there are some strange ways of self expression. Tattooing, piercing, scarification and branding have been around since the beginning of man. In many cultures, these are required acts.

In a Native American religion, they pierce their flesh with hooks and hang themselves to near death. They only do this to receive a vision quest.

African tribes use scarification. They scar their faces and chests to show the onset of adulthood. "Human head" hunters would tattoo their hands and shoulders when they achieved their first kill. They would receive the tattoo once the human heads were displayed to the tribe.

Many eastern cultures participated in ankle-branding. This was a way of showing social stature.

Tattooing can be used as identification, warning or as a beauty enhancer. In some societies, such mutilation is shunned. It is an art form to me. It is similar to a spiritual release. From the moment the needle pierces the skin and the first drop of ink is laid, the self-rebellion has begun.

For me, it is my ornament of choice. It shows my personality, feelings, bravery or as already stated, beauty. Body art may be a growing trend, but it is also an individual's choice.

We have a right to decorate our bodies, whether it be jewelry, ink or scar. No matter if we adore it or find it repulsive, it is a "new", old way of self-expression.

Rap is more than music

Marissa Leary, reporter

Rap is spoken words with an underlying rhythmic section. Rap is a form of expression, which finds its roots deeply embedded within ancient African oral and cultural tradition. Some people in society believe rap music is a bad influence on young children. What they can't see is the rich culture of my people.

The media points to rap and its celebrities for the violence and shootings occuring in our school. They also blame rap for the domestic violence in homes because of the hateful lyrics in songs. In response the the emotional outpour of terrified parents, the government has placed parental advisory labels on CD's with cursing and violent language. I believe this was a way to shelter kids from the real side of life.

Rap music does not have an effect on children. The songs are made for dancing, listening and expressing oneself. Sometimes rap music becomes an advocate for certain national issues such as: killings and selling drugs.

Rap only becomes negative when a person interprets the song wrong or with the wrong attitude. Unfortunately, these misinterpretations will always be accused of today's youth violence.

THE RANT

November

RBW

AHS student takes on *The Telegraph*

Regan Joehl

After reading the article entitled "AHS Students Score Poorly on Test" on the front page of the Wednesday, October 23, 2002 edition of The Telegraph, I, being a student of AHS, felt insulted and outraged. First, I feel title of the article is a blanket statement that was offensive and disrespectful to many of the students at AHS. The students and staff of AHS, myself included, are dedicated to academic excellence; we are focused to excel on the Prairie State Achievement Exams. Not all students "scored poorly" on the test. I feel it is of Poor journalistic procedure to disregard the positive advancement made on the test and to focus on negative information, which was misquoted and distorted at the expense of Alton High's image.

Imagine my surprise when I opened the Friday, October 25, 2002 edition of The Telegraph and happened to catch a small lightly printed correction on page A3 of the paper. The correction informed readers that The Telegraph had interchanged the words "state standard" and "state average" in the article concerning Alton test scores. This completely changed to focus of the article and proved all AHS test scores EXCEEDED all this important correction was hidden on the third page of the paper while an unresearched, confusing article criticizing AHS and its students made bold print on the front page.

AHS provides the opportunity to excel in education to all its students. I think it is time that headline news should be fully researched and correct, in order to provide a fair and equal perspective on education in our area. In order to improve education, we need community support. I find it very disturbing that a prominent, widely distributed publication would print and showcase educational information that is misleading and derogatory to the Alton School District.

Students' inhumanities cause others to withdraw

Audrey Wildhagen

We see it every day. In the halls, people seem to be constantly shoving and yelling at each other. From one side of the Pit to the other, there is a constant stream of obscenities blaring starkly with the bits and pieces of civil conversation drifting in the air. Rumors float like feathers on the wind, easily scattered but hard to retrieve again once the deed is done. Such discourtesy has gotten to be the norm around campus; most ignore it unless it affects them personally.

"I think it's horrible," said senior Katie Plunkett. "[People] need to act as if they were in high school, not middle school."

If it's not people shrieking at each other because one girl had the audacity to blink at another girl's boyfriend, it's people just being obnoxious. The conduct and conversation that goes on in the lunchroom by some is nothing short of obscene. People talk about sex as it was something to be taken lightly.

"I think three-fourths of the people at this school need to act mature," said senior Becki Carpenter. "When you grow up and get a real job, your boss wouldn't think twice about firing you for being disrespectful. At high school age, there is no excuse for behavior like that," she added.

What is worse is that the students who act their age and behave as usual, suffer the consequences of others misbehavior as well. A good example is when AHS lost its off-campus rights. The entire student populace was punished due to the antics of a few people.

Why must people be so cruel? Some suffer every day under constant verbal battering, most of the time for blatantly childish reasons, or sometimes no reason at all.

We all see them. They're the ones by themselves in the hallways, the ones who sit alone at lunch while everyone squabbles over chairs and tables or places in the lunch line. Would it be so hard to offer them a smile or a kind word? Such things brighten a person's day more than we would think.

Too much is asked of high schoolers

Beth Richards

Adults need to realize that their memories of high school days are very different from a present high schooler's life. Not only is the school work load a lot heavier, but there is also a lot more students with jobs. Some adults just don't understand that putting an enormous amount of responsibilities on high schoolers doesn't make them more reliable or responsible, it simply makes their lives more stressful.

"I think it is good for high school kids to have jobs as long as they're not working too many hours because it does teach them time management," said Marsha Bordeaux of Operation Outreach.

Having jobs during the school year and going to work stresses students because they don't think they have enough time to do anything they need to do. Time management isn't just something learned by having a lot of pressure and stress, but something that needs to be taught.

"I think it is OK for juniors and seniors to have jobs to save for college or have spending money, but they should not get into debt while still in high school. It's OK to have a job as long as it does not interfere with education, but high schoolers they have the rest of their life to work. They should just enjoy their youth while they still can," said Mrs. VanWinkle of counseling. Students need their jobs to be able to make their own money and earn their freedom, but they need their educations even more.

Invading Iraq: Triumph in the desert

Kenny Ross, News Editor

On Tuesday, November the 8th, the U.N. Security Council unanimously passed the U.S. sponsored resolution that calls for the return of the U.N. arms inpectors to Iraq. The tough wording of the resolution leaves little leeway for Saddam Hussein to try and hide his weapons of mass destruction or play games with the arms inspectors.

Most surprising of all was when Saddam agreed to let the inspectors back in after a hiatus of four years. Although Saddam fell short of stating that he would fully accept the resolution. The suspicion on Capitol Hill is that he plans to play the same cat and mouse game with arm inspectors that he has played in the past. President Bush has stated that he will not allow Saddam to break the rules this time, and he will not accept, "Deception or Denial or Deceit."

Even with Hussein's acceptance of the U.N. resolution, the U.S. continues to prepare for war against Iraq. President Bush recently ordered "Roll on, Roll off" transport ships to prepare for action. These ships are used in the transporting of heavy weapons, which would be used in any conflict. Reservists are also being notified that possible long term active duty is eminent.

United States Marine Corp FA-18 Pilot, Captain Jason G. Woodworth, also thinks war with Saddam is inevitable and is prepared to go when called. Captain Woodworth flies "Hornet" fighter/attack planes, the Navy's most advanced plane that would be on the frontline of any war with Iraq. He is currently stationed on the east coast and is privy to the preparations for an expedition against Iraq.

Woodworth believes that war with Saddam, though a terrible prospect in and of itself, has some positive implications, foremost being the removal of a dangerous enemy from power. "Within the next ten years Saddam will have nuclear weapons capability and he will not hesitate to use them when pressed," explains Woodworth. Richard Butler, former leader of the last UNSCOM mission to Iraq, which is the arms inspection agency in the U.N., also agrees," Saddam is the most dangerous man in the world."

Saddam's biological and chemical weapon arsenal also poses a threat to the world. Iraq has been the only nation in the world to use weapons of mass destruction since World War II. According to Woodworth, American forces are prepared for Saddam if, in an invasion, he decides to gamble and use his biological and chemical weapons. "Our forces are trained to fight in a biological warfare environment and will do so effectively and forcefully," though he adds ominously, "However, there might be an initial strike that will catch American forces off guard and casualties could be heavy."

Many politicians from the liberal left of the political spectrum and several European leaders worry that a successful removal of Saddam could create more problems that it fixes. Carl F. Day, an AHS social studies teacher, believes that Saddam's removal could create a power vacuum in the region that would lead to further destabilization. According to Mr. Day, a Saddam-dominated Iraq cancels Iran in the balance of power in the Middle East.

Captain Woodworth agrees with Mr. Day, though he believes that any destabilization would be short term in nature. "If the Bush Administration has a realistic plan for reestablishing a succeeding government, in the very long run it would stabilize the region more," he said.

A pro-American democracy in Iraq has the potential to foster democratic movements in other brutal Middle East dictatorships like Saudi Arabia, Iran and Egypt. The removal of a large financier of Palestinian terrorism would also go far in resolving the current dispute in the West Bank.

Regardless of a person's view on the pros and cons of a war in Iraq, war itself seems inevitable. Hussein is bent on domination of the Middle East region while Bush is equally bent on not allowing Saddam to dominate the world's main supply of oil. Captain Woodworth, an American pilot who will be sent to the frontline of any conflict believes that the removal of Saddam is bound to happen. "In the long run we are going to have to go in and do it sometime or the other, he is simply too dangerous."

Left-wingers fight war against Bush's policies

Alex McMullen, Copy Editor

As the prospects of war on the Iraqi front looms, many left wing leaders, including new House Minority leader Nancy Pelosi, have refused to bend to President Bush's proposal to remove Saddam Hussein. Many argue that Bush simply wants to finish his father's war and distract the American public from the struggling economy. They recall right-winger Larry Kudlow saying, "The shock therapy of decisive war (on Iraq) will elevate the stock market by a couple-thousand points."

Statements like this keep left-wingers in an uproar since they do not want dead soldiers for better exchange rates. According to *www.democrats.com*, a war with Iraq would benefit a group of investors, including Bush's father, who invest in the Carlyle Group, a U.S. weapons manufacturer. Bush's sphere of influence would also receive great praise from an American public that would fail to recognize who would pay for the war.

During the Gulf War, $61 billion was pumped into a campaign featuring the U.S. and Iraq. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Japan aided the U.S. by eventually covering $48 billion of the total expense. If a new war against Iraq would occur, American taxpayers would foot the entire bill.

Left-wingers do not want a larger deficit to deflate the economy even more. A war with Iraq would also trigger a return to exorbitant oil prices and fuel anti-American terrorist groups to respond with the utmost brutality. This would create a U.S. blanket of blame against the fundamental Middle East, and chaos would be in quick order.

"Bury me on my face; for in a little while everything will be turned upside down" Diogenes

The snipers attack

Sarah Gill

Many high school students experienced their first serial killer news coverage this past month. Beginning October 2, random shootings were occurring through put the Maryland/ Washington, D.C. and Virginia areas.

The criminal task force of the FBI mostly worked on the Beltway Sniper case, according to Devon Hargis who works at the FBI's Washington Field Office. He is in communications, and was involved with setting up and establishing the 800 number top-line and computers networking system.

James Schneider, policemen for 25 years and Police Chief of Wood River for three years, is completely assured the FBI and police handled the sniper investigation "In a very professional manner with a successful outcome." As a law enforcement officer myself, I can only imagine what was being done behind the scenes that has not been made public " said Schneider.

Without the improvements of technology, this case would have been much more difficult. Technology has made a world of difference. Schneider said, " New technology is being implemented everyday in the law enforcement field. The most recent major improvement is the use of DNA. This process is still being refined and has been a tremendous aid in law enforcement investigations around the world. He also mentioned that new fingers print technology is currently being developed and that computers,"Have made tremendous improvements in the way cases are investigated."

The Beltway Snipers have left the FBI and police with a lot of hard work. Though there is much to do, FBI agent's work schedules did not change. Their normal workday is a 10-hour shift. FBI Special Agent M. Morrow said, "There were additional shifts added to keep the command post and top-line operational 24 hours a day. In comparison, during the 9-11 attacks the agents and supports employees wee working a minimum of 12 hour days."

FBI Special Agent P. Murray, when asked what has been the hardest part of cracking the Beltway Sniper case, answered, "Snorting through the large volume of information and determining what is the key piece of information that is needed in order to solve the case." Murray said, We asked callers, however, to make sure that they provide substantive information relating to the sniper attacks; but not theories, opinion or unrelated information which needlessly tie up the tip-line."

FBI Director Robert S. Mueller is proud of the great teamwork shown from federal, state, and local agencies for their" unstinting behind-the-scenes work." He said, "While the media spotlight was often on the efforts of the others, agents were there talking to people on the street, conducting surveillances, conducting interviews, collecting and analyzing evidence, searching databases, and stitching the case together from Washington State to Washington, D.C., from New Jersey to Alabama."

Mueller said, "It was a tough and unusual case, and I am proud of the work they did -and are still doing in legal and forensic areas - to ensure that justice is served." On October 25, the day after the two arrests were made, Mueller gave a statement to the victims and their families. He said, "With killings behind us, I would like to remember those who died and who were so grievously wounded. On behalf of every man and women in the FBI, I would like to express my deepest sympathy to the families of the victims. We feel and share your loss profoundly."

Devon Hargis would like to send a message to young teenagers of our country by saying, "Terrorism doesn't pay. Enjoy the best of each moment with your family and friends, because you don't know what tomorrow will bring."

Copying DVDs *is* legal

Marissa Leary, reporter

Robert Moore, an ex-marine and college drop out has invented a way to copy DVD's. With trying to teach his son a thing or two about computers Moore has invented something that might be helpful to US.The DVD Copy Plus software allows people to copy DVD onto CD's. The company has sold more than 100,000 copies of DVD Copy Plus software since mid-2001. "People already are making DVD copies; we're just making it simpler with a couple of clicks of a button, "said Rob Semaan, 321's chief executive.

According to cnn.com last year, a New York federal appeals court ruled that the 1998 Digital Millennium Copyright Act does not follow the dissemination of computer code that circumvents the content Scramble System.Moore wanted the judge to rule that what 321 produce is legal and don't violate the Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

Motion Picture association of America spokeswoman, Martha Grutka said, "People behind products that circumvent a DVD's scrambling technology are exposing themselves to criminal prosecution under the DMCA with hope to gain acceptance." Fred von Lohmaan agrees he states that,"There's no reason why regular folks should be unable to make copies of their own property." He also said, "If people misuse and sell bootlegs on the streets, by all means they should be stopped. But we shouldn't all be denied fair use because some misuse."

"Show me a good loser and I will show you a loser."

Paul Newman

Bush backs GOP for Illinois

Brandy Robinson, reporter

With a worried president and elections close at hand, Bush ushered people to vote for Republican John Shimkus. Shimkus wants to be reelected to help the states GOP ticket. " Turn out the vote . Do whatever it takes. Get on the phone, grab your neighbor." The president told a cheering crowd in Springfield, Illinois Sunday November 2, 2002.

"These are good people. They need our help and deserve our support." Bush focused on Shimkus in an attempt for a fourth term as central and southern Illinois representative. But Bush focused also took time to promote GOP candidate Jim Ryan, who was trailing behind in the opinion polls.

Tied up with Jim Ryan is democrat Rod Blagojevich. Blagojevich still has some what of a small head in the opinion polls, with eight to ten percentage point lead. Shimkus's race will determine more than just who gets what position in state office. It also determines whether or not the republicans will maintain their majority rule in the united states house of representatives

Shimkus is fighting with Democrat David Phelps for a seat in the 30 - county 19 district. To get votes, the candidates mingled with the people. Blagojevich stood in the middle of the busy street just to shake the hands of coming and going drivers. Many people honked in support. As of November 4 Blagojevich won the Governors race and Shimkus won the state congress race.

Information courtesy of http:/NWLtimes.com

Students explore college days on campus

Brandi Skinner

Alton High does many things to help the graduating juniors and seniors pick a college to go to. Just about every week the counselors put together a meeting day for colleges to come and visit our campus. SIUC was able to come and visit our school this week.

A woman that attended SIUC came in and handed out brochures and applications to potential students interested in attending the college. She was able to answer any question the students asked her, ranging from financial aid, requirements, majors and those who were interested in becoming campus residence.

This gave the students a better outlook on what they would like to do. Many people benefited form this great opportunity Just by someone attending the meeting and filling out an information card on their particular interests, that person will receive information about the major of interest through the mail.

" This is a terrific opportunity that should not be passed up." Dasha Skinner, a a senior of Alton High quoted. " The students are actually given a chance to have the schools come to them instead of having to go all the way out to visit the college, so why not take it?" A lot of people agreed with this opinion, and it turned out to be very successful.

Youth forum gives teens a broad perspective

Umar Bradshaw

The annual Madison county youth forum was held on the campus of Lewis and Clark Community College on October 15. The aim for this forum is to find out the problem and solutions for the teenage youths of Madison county. The problems were predetermined to be the usage of tobacco, drugs, alcohol. The solutions were brought about by selected students from numerous high schools. The schools included were Alton, Edwardsville, Civic Memorial, Roxanna, Granite City, East Alton - Wood River, and Triad.

> "My experiences as a football player have led me to believe that with perserverance, anything can be achieved."
> - John St. Clair

The students were put into groups with their problem with their problems already selected and were responsible to produce solutions. The groups were supervised by Lewis and Clark students who also produced a slide show for the group's presentation. Before the tiresome task of extensive brainstorming, a guest speaker was presented. The speaker was pro football player John St.Clair. Mr. St.Clair main focus was on the friend's influences on what one what does. He was asked how his friendships were in high school and he replied, "Some people are not looking out for your best interest and those people are not friends."

After about three hours of problem solving, the groups had to put it all together and present their solutions to a group of panelists. The panel consisted of community leaders and business owners. Two students of Alton High presented their groups ideas. Three students represented their respected groups. They were Claire Yanta, Alex Mcmullen, and Carl Mcmullen. The students would voice their ideas and the panelists would ask them questions about their solutions.

The most frequently asked question was how were they going to pay for it. The drug and alcohol group came up with a solution to build a club at the old K - Mart in Wood River, but didn't speak of it during the presentation. Ironically, the director of the forum, Phil Hansbarry, said ," I would like to see something done to that old K - Mart in Wood River."

Teachers take on NHS brains at basketball

Courtney Schien, managing editor and Sarahjay Whitney, co-editor

On December 12, the National Honor Society will take on AHS faculty at 7 pm. In the gym at West Elementary School. After NHS's 73-50 loss last year to the faculty members, NHS members are ready to redeem themselves. Senior Natalie Lewis said, "We're going to win by good tactics, and they're old, so they don't have a chance."

The halftime show entertainment will feature cheerleaders from NHS and AHS faculty members. Mrs. Purcell is the head cheerleader for the faculty cheerleaders. The participants are: Mrs. Purcell, Mrs. Laker, and Mrs. Zerow. NHS cheerleaders team will perform a dance routine during the halftime show. Their members are seniors: Leslie Murphy, Sarah Whitney, Aaron Veight, Brandon Krepel, Amber Evans, and Mary Dublo. Proceeds for the game will go towards sponsoring a family at the Oasis center.

Players for NHS will be seniors: Chris Lauschke, Natalie Lewis, Carl McMullen, Alex McMullen, Drew Funkhouser, Jody Cox, Regan Joehl, Thomas Shiminek, Jeff McDonald, Allison York and Eland Siddle. Players for the faculty are: Mr. Coleman, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Kimble, Mr. Mayerhoffer, Mr. Norman, Mr. Talbert, Mr. Scott, Mr. Trapani, Mr. Hudson, Coach James and Coach Mitchell.

Other NHS students will be taking tickets, announcing, and working the concession stand.

New rules in effect for holiday dance

Abbey Bates

The holiday dance is nearing. It will be held on Saturday, December 14, at 8 p.m., in the Alton High School cafeteria.

The theme for this year's dance will be "Naughty or Nice". The first theme picked by the Student Council, "Holiday in the Hood" was rejected by Mr. Trapani.

Leslie Murphy, chairperson of the holiday dance, said, "The DJ for the dance has not been chosen yet, but I am working on finding one." Last year's DJ was from 100.3 the Beat.

Improvements are being made on the entrance to the dance. Mr. Trapani has made suggestions to open more doors and have more places to take tickets. Congest ion should be down at this dance, according to the Student Council.

After things were stolen out of purses at the Homecoming dance, a better system of checking belongings has been developed. Students are still encouraged not to bring these things into the dance because AHS is not responsible for them.

Another new addition will be that chaperones have a right to search purses, bags or coats if they have probable cause. This was implemented after some chaperones from Homecoming suspected alcohol was being brought into the dance.

December Dates

Dec. 3-	**Biology Club**	
	room 313	7:30 a.m.
	Minority Excellence	
	Library	3:30 p.m.
	Fellowship of Christian Athletes	
	room 512	7 p.m.
Dec. 4-	**National Honor Society**	
	Library	7:30 a.m.
	Upward Bound	
	room 114	3 p.m.
	NHS Ring Bells	
	Target	4-9 p.m.
Dec. 5-	**NHS Ring Bells**	
	Target	4-9 p.m.
	Amnesty International	
	room 515	3 p.m.
	Winter Choral Concert	
	AHS Auditorium	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 6-	**French Club**	
	Mrs. Clasby's room	3 p.m.
Dec. 9-	**Student Council Candy Gram sale**	
Dec. 10-	**Minority Excellence**	
	Library	3:30 p.m.
Dec. 11-	**National Honor Society**	
	Library	7:30 a.m.
	Upward Bound	
	room 114	3 p.m.
	NHS Ring Bells	
	Target	4-9 p.m.
Dec. 12-	**Amnesty International**	
	room 515	3 p.m.
	NHS Student/Faculty Basketball Game	
	West Gym	7 p.m.
Dec. 14-	**Christmas Dance**	
	AHS Cafeteria	8-11 p.m.
Dec. 17-	**Minority Excellence**	
	Library	3:30 p.m.
	Fellowship of Christian Athletes	
	room 512	7 p.m.
	NHS Ring Bells	
	Target	4-9 p.m.
Dec. 18-	**National Honor Society**	
	Library	7:30 a.m.
	Upward Bound	
	room 114	3 p.m.
	NHS Lights in Park	
	Rock Springs Park	5:30-9:30 p.m.
Dec. 21-Jan.5-	**Christmas Break**	

** This Calendar is subject to change without notice*

Clark's audition turns out to be '*Fantastik*'

Andrea Zimmermann, co-editor-in-chief

Last summer, Jessica Clark's determination paid off. She was selected to take part in the Muny in St. Louis' production of *The Fantastiks.*

For Clark, it was a long drawn out process. "I've been auditioning for the Muny since I was in third grade. I was so excited to be chosen," she said.

Three hundred hopeful actors and dancers had gathered at St. Louis University High School during March. They learned a dance to perform for the judges. It was also required to come with a prepared song. Clark sang "Broadway Baby" from *The Follies.*

Nearly four weeks later, a representative from the Muny contacted Clark by phone. "All he told me was that they were intersted in me. A few days later, I received a letter telling me I would be a dancer in *The Fantastiks."*

Will she try out again? Clark promises, "Absolutely!"

Guitarists looking for Drummer

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CALL JOHN AT 259-2567

Depression is a serious threat to teenagers

Laura Gossett

Depression is a problem that millions of adolescents face every day. Many times depression is passed off as just one of the many mood swings on the teenage emotional roller coaster. This causes the underlying problem to be overlooked. These mood swings may actually be more serious than regular teenage drama.

The Call for Help crisis intervention hotline is one of the outlets for those suffering from depression. Janette, a counselor for the hotline, could not release her last name because of privacy laws. She stated that some of the depression symptoms to look for are: fatigue, inability to eat, withdrawn from family and changes in normal behavior.

People suffering from depression or other mental imbalances do not exactly live underneath rocks. Alarmingly, people with such problems are all over the place. Many of them may be walking around the AHS campus. In fact, more and more people are diagnosed every day which adds more names to the already long list.

Depression is not the only problem. Many teenagers are diagnosed as being a schitzofrenic or bipolar. Often these problems originate from depression.

One anonymous student diagnosed as being a schitzofrenic said, "It doesn't make me a nut case or anything like that. I don't talk to bunnies or walk around chanting to my dark lord. It's nothing like the crazy farfetched image shown on TV. With help from my therapist, I can lead a normal life. Although without her, I'm not sure where I would be."

Getting help is essential for someone who may have a problem. According to Janette, depression can lead to suicide if not addressed. There are many places to go if help is needed such as a doctor, counselor, or a crisis hotline. For counseling or advice about any problem, dial the Call for Help hotline at (618)-397-0968.

Holidays are tough on local firefighters

Keegan Thompson

As Greg Bock rolls over in bed waking up to another holiday season, he knows the holidays will be different for him. Bock, an Alton Fire Department captain and rescue worker, begins his holidays with these thoughts.

For most people, the holidays mean turkey, mashed potatoes, eggnog and candy. Students get days and even weeks off of school. Adults also get their share of vacation time. For surprises on the holidays, people give and get hugs, kisses and gifts.

"The holidays are tough for me primarily because I'm away from my family and loved ones. Events become more traumatic for the victims and their families because of the fact it is the holidays. It makes our 24 hour shifts seem like 3 days," Bock said.

Policemen, firemen, EMT's and others involved in law enforcement and civil service agree that the holidays can be one giant nightmare.

These civil servants see some pretty weird things including overactive electrical sockets, domestic violence due toholiday pressures, overexcitement and people being irresponsible.

Bock recalls the weirdest event he ever witnessed during the holiday season. "What comes to mind is one time on Christmas guy was going to try to start a fire in his fireplace. He went to his backyard to cut a tree down. It was a green tree and those don't burn. To get the tree to burn, he put gasoline on it. When he went to light it, he didn't even get within five feet with a match before he encountered the lower explosive limits. When we arrived, he was standing there frozen in surprise, singed, with everything in his living room singed too. He didn't even light the fire before it exploded!"

Despite the risk and sadness of his job, Bock exuberantly stated that he never loses faith in the holidays.

The Alton American Idol

Laura Fay

Kristin Hammond took a chance and ran with it. The senior auditioned for "American Idol" and qualified for the second round.

Hammond arrived at the Nashville Municipal Auditorium on October 29 at 10:30 P.M. She slept on cold concrete just to get a spot in line for her chance at fame. The producers gave bracelets to 1500 people on October 30 for auditions; Hammond received bracelet number 907. More than 500 people were sent away without anything. Kristin's audition was scheduled for 8 a.m. on Thursday morning.

She performed the song "Because You Loved Me" by Celine Dion. "Most of the people were picking popular songs. I decided to pick a song that the judges hadn't heard yet." commented Hammond.

"The producers and the people were really nice. The experience was fun and overwhelming but very stressful. I did not expect to be picked," said Hammond.

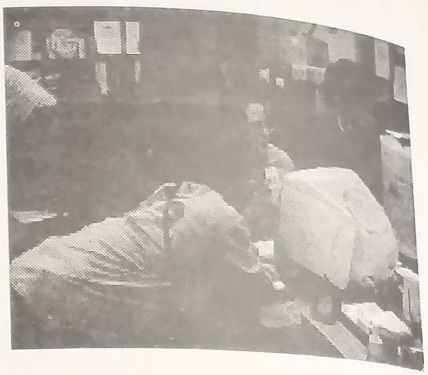
"I was intimidated because no one from the previous groups were selected. When they called out my number, I was stunned. I just stood there," said Hammond.

"It was ironic that the day of the audition was my birthday, and 907 [her bracelet number] is my address," said Hammond.

Kristin Hammond appeared on Fox News on November 1. "I feel privileged to have a once in a lifetime opportunity like American Idol, but I think everything worked out for the best."

Teacher aims for certification

Kriss Redden



The long tedious process of National Board certification candidacy finally ended for English teacher Angela Hawthorne. Hawthorne participated the Illinois National Board for Professional Teaching Standards scholarship program that is open to public and private school teachers. "I am very ecstatic and surprised to have received this honor," said Hawthorne.

"The process was difficult even though I already had the material available in my lesson plans. I wanted to make the application perfect," said Hawthorne.

The standards for Adolescence and Young Adulthood/English Language Arts teachers who desire a certification include a pay bonus. "If schools want qualified teachers, they need to pay us a comfortable salary," commented Hawthorne.

The application has several components that are completed for consideration into the program. The assessment is performance-based and designed to evaluate the complex knowledge and skills that comply with the NBPTS standards.

The portfolio allows the teacher to present an example of the actual classroom over a specific time frame. In the portfolio the teacher provides an analysis of student growth in reading and writing, class discussions, a demonstration of instruction about an important English language concept and examples of the contribution of the teacher to student learning.

"This is only the beginning of another long process," Hawthorne said.

Now is the time for seniors to apply for scholarships

Kriss Redden

Application and scholarship deadlines are approaching for seniors. Financing college is the biggest concern for students and parents. The costs for students to attend college increases each year. "I have researched different colleges and applied to those that would offer the most money," said Lauren Gebauer, senior.

"I have researched college and saved money to pay for school," said Jennifer Mulren, senior.

Scholarships are available for students who search for the funds to pay for college and follow the advice of high school counselors, and current and graduated college students. "Students should be accepted to the college and then apply for financial aid, need based and scholarships, by February," said Barb Mondy, honors adviser.

"Parents must fill out and return the income tax form for 2002 in January to receive more money," commented Mondy.

The financial aid reports come from the state. The Illinois Student Assistance Commission, ISAC, determines the amount of need based financial aid for which students are eligible. The report is sent to the college indicated on the financial aid form, based on the finances of the college the student might receive the full amount. Students are responsible for the costs that are left after financial aid. It is important that students calculate tuition and miscellaneous costs to attend the college, such as food and other necessary supplies.

Apply for scholarships to account for the amount of money that is the student's responsibility. Scholarships are available through colleges as well as private organizations. "The internet is an excellent source to research scholarships," said Mondy.

Certain programs are available for students such as the loan forgiveness program. This program allows students to borrow money for college in special fields and areas after the person is employed in that field the loan is free. If the person decides to venture into another field the full amount must be paid. These programs are provided through the state and are available at local banks.

Prozac is being used for unintended purposes

Ashley Freeman

Prozac is the second largest money-making drug in the United States second to the ulcer medication, Zantac. It has been prescribed to more than 40 million people worldwide. Since the introduction of Prozac in 1988, it has gained an immense amount of popularity, but is this drug being overused?

More and more doctors are prescribing the drug for many other ailments than depression, which is what the drug was initially created for. Some doctors have been prescribing Prozac for such additional ailments as: anxiety, panic attacks, obsessive compulsive disorders, severe premenstrual syndrome, sensitivity to criticism, fear of rejection, and lack of self-esteem.

Dr. Mark T. Klucka, of St. Anthony's Hospital, said that he feel that Prozac is not necessarily over prescribed. Dr. Klucka states, "Prozac should only be prescribed to a person that is truly clinically depressed." He went on by saying, "We have systems in place to screen for depression."

The public may also be overlooking all the negative side effects of Prozac on the person taking the drug. Tests conducted by Eli Lilly, the founder of the drug, links the drug to side effects ranging from nausea to serious violence.

According to "All Aboard the Prozac Bandwagon", a series of reports by Jill M. Hively; between 1988 and June of 1992 more than 23 thousand adverse reaction reports were filed regarding the drug. These reports were handled by the Food and Drug Administration. Some of the most common reactions to the drug were delirium, hallucinations, convulsions, violent hostility, psychosis, more than 1 thousand suicide attempts, and many other Prozac related deaths. Some of the immediate side effects of the drug are uncontrollable jerky movements, facial tics, jitteriness, insomnia, and nausea. These may seem a little extreme, but they should diminish after a few weeks of taking the drug.

Prozac is licensed to treat depression, which is a chemical imbalance in the brain. It should not be used to treat problems like PMS or sensitivity to everyday aspects of life. Patients are recommended to use specific drugs to treat their particular problem, not Prozac.

Dr. Klucka added, " Some parents push their kids to go on Prozac, when all they may really need is a little more parental involvement."

Diabetes is an extremely serious disease

Zac West, webpage editor

Diabetes is a chronic disease that can affect people of all ages. Some people develop the disease early in their lives, while in others the disease does not develops until later . Diabetes is a disease that begins due to problems with the pancreas. The pancreas is an organ that keeps a constant flow of insulin to the body to keep blood sugars normal. A normal blood sugar level is between 85 and 160. A diabetic's blood sugar could get as high as 1000 or as low as 0. Once a diabetic's blood sugar level varies to these extremes, it can become very deadly.

Some diabetics' pancreas does not function. This type of diabetes is called type 1 or juvenile diabetes. This occurs when insulin producing cells are not present or not functioning. The second type of diabetes is when a person's pancreas works, but it doesn't create enough insulin to work correctly; this is called type 2. Insulin, a type of medication, is a small protein containing 51 amino acids.

Each type of diabetes has different forms of treatment. With type 1 diabetes, the person has to receive injections through either shots or through an insulin pump. Type 2 allows the person to take pills to help balance out their insulin.

Diabetics have a life-threatening disease, but if they are careful to watch their blood sugar levels, they can live normal lives just like any other people. Sarah Cleaves, a diabetic since the age of 5, commented about having this disease, "Diabetes is a tough thing to live with, but with all the advances in technology it is much easier."

The next time that you see a student walking around campus with a electronic device on their side, ask them before you assume it is a pager, it may just be the way of distributing life saving medication.

Not a pager! . . . this pump supplies a diabetic with insulin.

Did you know?

Jessica Schwartzkopf

-Suicide is the third leading cause of death between the ages of 15 and 24.

-Suicide is the sixth leading cause of death between the ages of 5 and 14.

-Stress is the most common factor contibuting to teen suicide

What students don't k

November

Until students reach home, school bears responsibility

Sarahjay Whitney, coverstory editor

How would you like it if Mr. Trapani and your assistant principal followed you to and from school every day?

According to *Ausmus by Ausmus v. Board of Education of City of Chicago* in 1985 as quoted in the "Illinois School Law Survey 1990" on page 139, the phrase "In loco parentis" means in place of the parent. "In loco parentis" gives the school responsibility for students as soon as they have pulled out of their driveways in the morning until they are safely on their front steps that afternoon. It is more commonly known as the front porch policy.

Section 7:190 page two of four, of the school board policy reads: "These grounds for disciplinary action apply whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, but not limited to:

"1. On, or within sight of, school grounds, before, during of after school hours or at any other time when the school is being used by a school group.

"2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, or event, or any activity or event which bears a reasonable relationship to school;

"3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function or event; or

"4. Anywhere, if the conduct may reasonably be considered to be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member, or an interference with school purposes or an educational function."

Number 1 gives the school the right to apply "disciplinary action" as long as the school grounds are in sight. This includes places such as, but not limited to up town, Rock Springs Park, or in the neighborhoods behind the football fields.

Number 2 basically says that if a student misbehaves at a school sponsored activity then they have the right to take disciplinary action against that student.

Number 3 is the front porch policy or "in loco parentis."

Number 4 includes any situations that the school board couldn't think of that interferes with the school's purposes or the student's educational function.

Rights are a privilege of age

Sarahjay Whitney, coverstory editor

In the *Tinker v. Des Moines School District* decision, the Supreme Court ruled that students and teachers do not lose their inalienable rights upon entrance into school property. This case happened during the Vietnam War. Students were wearing arm bands which expressed their disfavor of the war.

The principal suspended students who wore the arm bands because he felt expression of political views on campus was inappropriate; the students, claiming their Constitutional rights had been violated, sued the Des Moines School District.

The Supreme Court upheld the claim of the students on the basis that students' free speech rights are protected as long as that speech does not disrupt the work of the school or rights of the other students.

In 1988, a principal at Hazelwood, MO, censored articles in the school newspaper on the basis that they were inappropriate for children ages 14 through 16. The articles talked about divorce, birth control and teen pregnancy. Due to the lack of time to go back and reedit, the principal also edited several articles, which he had no problems with just because they were on the same page as one of the "inappropriate" articles.

The students sued. This time, however, the Supreme Court upheld the school's decision to edit the articles, stating that, "The rights of public school students are not necessarily the same as those of adults in other settings."

Tinker only applies to school whose newspaper is a public forum. A newspaper is a public forum if the paper is supervised by a faculty member, if the paper is designed as a class, and if the publication uses the school's name or resources. The RedBird Word is not a public forum.

Administrators don't need a warrant to search

Sarahjay Whitney, coverstory editor

Alton High School doesn't need the police to make arrests for possession of illegal substances, the New Jersey v. T.L.O decision in 1985 gave a school administrator justification to search a student just on probable cause.

AHS Detective Gary Cranmer said, "If there's a rumor about a student possessing alcohol, marijuana or a gun an administrator has the right by Illinois law to frisk that student and to search his or her belongings, such as a car, backpack or purse.

First either Assistant Principal Jim Glazier or Principal Phil Trapani would search the student and/or the belongings in question. Detective Cranmer would oversee the search as a witness. As soon as Mr. Trapani or Mr. Glazier finds an illegal substance, Detective Cranmer would arrest the student and charge him with illegal possession. Detective Cranmer can do this because of the plain view doctrine law.

If another staff or faculty member were to search a student or his or her possessions then it would be an infringement of that students rights.

know about their rights

ck

November

Illinois awards right to carry cell phones

Sarahjay Whitney, coverstory editor

Last May, students pulled into the pit to find the tuna trees fallen over the main steps, no power in all three buildings and their assistant principals not allowing them access to the main and annex buildings. Seniors with cars were quick to leave, seeing the chance to skip out of the morning Calculus test. Other students, having nowhere to go, milled around in the pit, but glad to be out of class. In the midst of the confusion of maintenance clearing the trees and some 1,000-odd chatting students, cell phones emerged out of their hiding places: cars, backpacks, purses, and cargo pockets.

Since the phone lines were down, assistant principals could not contact parents about the delay of class. If student came to their office and claimed to have called their parent on a cell phone, the assistant principal wrote them a pass out of the pit. What if there had been something more serious happen then a power outage, and students were unable to legally reach a phone?

In previous years, cell phones have been banned from schools. They were stereotyped as being associated with drug traffickers. Within the past couple of years cell phones have become a family necessity. Many parents give their children portable phones for safety issues, emergencies, or prevention from being stranded.

The General Assembly of Illinois recognized the benefits of allowing students to carry cell phones on school property. State Senator William Shaw (D-15-Dolton) said, "After the tragedy at Columbine, we realized the value and actual need for cell phones in schools during emergencies. In the case of an emergency, a cell phone can immediately alert the police and save lives."

Governor George Ryan signed the new law, House Bill 3938, on August 26, 2002. It allows students to carry and/or use cell phones while in any school building or on school property in the State of Illinois. The ultimate decision on whether students may use cell phones will be left up to local school boards.

The Alton School Board has no plans to "lift the currant ban on cell phones," according to school board member Mrs. Vivian Monckton. A first and second reading will take place on November 19 and December 17 on the cell phone issue at the regular School Board meeting.

"We will entertain any information from anyone who wants to supply it," said Mrs. Monckton.

The School Board will discuss the issue of the ease of accessibility to phones in the event of an emergency for students and faculty. Mrs. Monckton said, "In the event of an emergency, the students and faculty may use any phone available to them." She also mentioned that there are already cell phones on campus provided to the school for emergency use.

Students who fight don't have the right to due process

Sarahjay Whitney, coverstory editor

When a fight occurs at school, or with in the guidelines of the School Board Policy in section 7:190 on page two, the students involved forfeit their procedural due process rights. In this situation students have substantive due process rights. "Substansive due process rights..." as defined in Illinois School Law Survey 1990 by David L. Franklin and Brian A. Braun, "...require rules to be reasonably defined, fairly administered, and related to a valid purpose."

This guideline, which was defined by *Wood v. Strickland* in 1975 doesn't specify who administers it, thereby giving this authority to the school. This empowers the school to deny the student's right to a lawyer and instead conduct a hearing with both parties, their parents, and an adult witness present, normally a school administrator. Lawyers need be present only at expulsion hearings.

Assistant Principal Jim Glaeser commented, "Nothing should be that serious [to require a lawyer be present]."

In the event that a fight would take place outside school jurisdiction, Mr. Glaeser commented that the school is always willing to help the police when an AHS student and a nonstudent is involved, however AHS will only get seriously involved.

"There are always a lot of gray areas in cases like these," said Mr. Glaeser

Due to AHS's "No-Tolerance of Violence Policy," a student who is defending his or herself in a fight must still be subject to discipline. Fighters at AHS must compose an essay about why they got into the fight and what they could have done to prevent it. Conferences will be scheduled with a counselor if the participants are minors.

Pit Officers Cory and Louis break up a catfight. Even though the students are fighting off of school campus, they will still suffer consequences because the school is in sight.

10% STUDENT DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

TAHITI TANNING COMPANY

3045 Godfrey Road • next to Wicks

618-466-2100

SWEDISH BEAUTY AND AUSTRALIAN GOLD

-TAN ACCELERATORS
-MOISTURIZERS
-AFTER TAN LOTIONS

ASK ABOUT OUR CUSTOM MADE GIFT BASKETS

GREAT FOR:
-BIRTHDAYS
-HOLIDAYS
-GRADUATIONS

Entertainment

www.altonweb.com

Celebration of Christmas puts on sparkling show in the park

Carl McMullen, Entertainment Editor

The holiday season begins early in Alton with the commencement of the annual Celebration of Christmas in Rock Springs Park. What began as a low-key lights show nearly ten years ago has developed into a premiere entertainment event for the Riverbend community.

This year's festivities begin on November 30 and continue until New Year's Eve. The price has been set at $7 per car and $1 per person in large vans and motor coaches. This monetary fee is asked for in the form of a donation.

The Celebration of Christmas continues to expand, with over 2.5 million lights on display this year. The picturesque Dickens-inspired displays have also grown. Over 100 are slated to dot the rolling hills of Rock Springs Park for this year's event..

Photos with Santa will be available like in the past, but changes have been made to other areas. The annual ornaments will no longer be available due to a lack of funds. Also, patrons will not be allowed to walk the park on given nights like years past.

Despite financial problems, the Celebration of Christmas has continued to provide a vital service to the community. The group recently declared bankruptcy due to the lack of ticket-purchases for the highly-regarded Celebration of Music over the summer. At that point, the status for the holiday event was questionable, but community support and good planning has helped to put on the show this year.

Many people in the community and high school appreciate the attention that the Celebration of Christmas brings to the area. "Alton needs this kind of exposure to expand. The Christmas lights, along with the block parties, bring the exposure," said Ron McMullen, a member of the Riverbend Growth Association.

Two local bands emerge and ascend from the common high school mold

Danielle Lyons

Many local musical acts are forming in the community. Two, in particular, are composed of students from the high school. Whether they are singing, playing the guitar, the drums, or the bass, they both show different talent.

One of the most successful bands from the Alton-area was a band called Judge Nothing. The band formed in the early 1990s when a group of Marquette Catholic students got the idea. They rode the success of songs like the acclaimed "Suitcase," and many new local bands hope to follow the formula of Judge Nothing.

A couple of good local bands are 31 Below and Dysphoria.They have some talented musicians who have worked together to produce music . Even though not everyone has heard of them, their fans confirm that the band has a considerable amount of talent and determination.

Thirty-One Below is a band that was originally formed in the the basement of drummer and singer, Alex Ray. Ray, who is a sophomore, worked with junior Josh Hausman to put together the band. Josh Hausman plays the guitar. Levi Hausman, who plays the bass, is also in the band.

The band currently has written six songs. They have played four shows and are still looking for places to play. "I play because... I like to", exclaimed Josh Hausman.

Another local band is Dysphoria. Dysphoria got started in March of 2002. They started playing in the garage of drummer, Doug Klein, and they continue to practice there. The band also consists of vocalist and guitar player, David Kirbach. Junior Justin Martin plays the bass guitar in the band.

Dysphoria has a total of sixteen songs and have already produced a record . They hope to have their next cd out by January of 2003. Martin commented, " I can't wait till our next cd comes out, so more people will be able to hear our new songs." Although they have only performed one time, they hope that more performances will be available in the future. "It just seems like there is no place to play," said Kirbach. "It makes it really hard on us." Both bands hope to play larger venues in the near future in hopes of gaining more fans.

Success for each one of these bands lies in the support of their fans. Both encourage all in the community to come out to one of their shows and support them. A good show is promised, and fame may be the next step for both bands with a growing fanbase in the area.

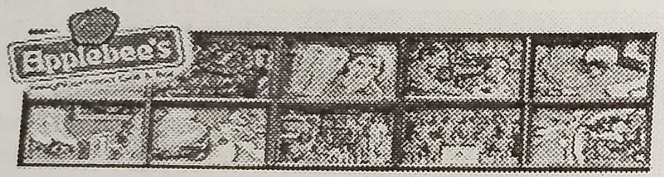
Applebee's is coming to town

Kali Tegel, reporter

It has been many years since there was something fun to do in the historic town of Alton. Many banks and churches are filling up the area. Finally, Applebee's will be opening December 9, and there will be someplace nice to dine.

Applebee's also has a new "to go" menu for those who can't stay for the great service. Applebee's is going to be the new spot for a night out on the town. More than likely, it would be a place to take mother for her birthday, or father for welcoming him back from a long road trip, or even a boyfriend/girlfriend for a 1 year anniversary.

Applebee's is also carrying gift cards now. They might be good stocking stuffers for Christmas. Be on the look out for the grand opening since the new employees are looking forward to seeing you there.



Movie Releases

Dec. 3 ~*Austin Powers in Goldmember*
Lilo & Stitch
Dec. 1 0~*The Emperor's New Clothes*
Halloween: Resurrection
Stuart Little 2
Dec. 17~*The Country Bears*
The Crocodile Hunter: Collision Course
Minority Report
Unfaithful
Dec. 31~*XXX*

Coming Soon to Theaters

Dec. 6~*Analyze That*
Empire
Dec. 13~*Evelyn*
The Hot Chick
Star Trek: Nemesis
Dec. 8~*Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*
Dec. 20~*Two Weeks Notice*
The Wildthornberrys Movie
Dec. 25~*Catch Me if You Can*
Pinocchio

Another *Friday* goes to theaters

Christina Sidwell

It's another Friday, and Craig is back in his old neighborhood where it all began. In the third installment of the Friday series, "Friday After Next", Craig teams up with his cousin Day-Day to overcome yet another eventful day.

Many people remember the 1995 movie, "Friday", starring Ice Cube (Craig) and Chris Tucker (Smokey). In the movie, the two, living with their parents and jobless, have to overcome the adversities of one long day. This "day in the life" comedy, which pulled $27.9 million on a budget of $3.5 million, won the attention of many and was followed up five years later by the sequel "Next Friday".

"Next Friday" picks up right where the original "Friday" leaves off, minus the character Smokey. This time, Craig moves to the suburbs to live with his cousin Day-Day, played by Mike Epps. Making for another hectic day, the problems of the hood seem to follow Craig wherever he lives. Like its predecessor, the movie became one of the most profitable hits of 2000, bringing in over 57 million on a budget of $9.5 million.

With the past success of the Friday series, writer, co-producer nd star Ice Cube decided come out to with the third movie, "Fri- ay After Next". In this movie, Craig and Day-Day finally grow and get an apartment of their own, only to have it robbed by a etto Santa Claus right before Christmas. The two are faced with harsh reality of a Christmas without presents and the threat of ction if rent is not paid by the day's end. Even with their new- nd level of responsibility, they still can't shake the chaos that ays seems to take over when Friday rolls around.

Ice Cube said that he has worked very hard on this third part of the Friday series to make it one that stands apart from the other two while still retaining the feeling and voice of the original "Friday".

"The story is Christmas in the hood but with a Friday take on it. It lets you into the head of Craig Jones, and you know you're going on a great journey," said Marcus Raboy, director of "Friday After Next".

"Friday After Next" is set to open in theaters November 22.

Photo courtesy of www.Movies.com

Honorable Mention ready to battle

Drew Mitchell

Their successful first year has been completed. Honorable Mention, a local band that resides at Alton High School, is hot on the local music scene.

The band is a light rock band that resembles other bands like, Good Charolette and Boxcar Racer. Band members include: lead guitarist Josh "Happy" Nicholson, bass guitarist Joe Young and drummer Chris Koehne.

The band, which started in September of 2001, first started in a basement, and has since escalated to playing at multiple concerts. These concerts include: Papa John's concert, and In the Shadow's concert held at held at the local moose lodge. Now the band has big plans to create their first CD.

The CD will contain 12 of their best songs including titles such as "Summer's End," "Lost Father," "Pole Face," "Motherly Defiance" and much more. The band hopes to have their CD completed around Christmas. "The things keeping us back from the CD is our tight schedule, and time to practice," said Happy.

Honorable Mention has had a pretty decent amateur career. It has gone both ways, from struggling to find concerts to having concerts once a month, and now trying to find time to practice.

The bands next challenge is to record their CD and compete at a battle of the bands concert, which is to be held sometime in January at AHS. "We don't expect to win, but we will hope for the best and expect the worst. We will practice as much as we can and hopefully be ready for the January performance," explained bass guitarist, Joe Young. The date for the battle of the bands performance will be announced at a later time. The band welcomes new fans as well as old fans to the performance to hear them live.

Eminem goes the distance in *8 Mile*

Kristin Hammond, reporter

Yes it's true, the controversial rap star Eminem has made his acting debut in a hard-edged urban drama, called *8 Mile*. The movie was inspired in part by incidents from the musician's own life.

Jimmy Smith (Eminem), known to his friends as Rabbit, is a young man trying to make his way out of inner-city Detroit. Rabbit's whole life has been a hard climb, and it certainly hasn't gotten any easier.

Rabbit has just been dumped by his girlfriend, forcing his to move back in with his emotionally unstable mother, Stephanie (Kim Bassinger), and he doesn't exactly get along well with Stephanie's boyfriend.

Rabbit has a factory job that is really tough and doesn't pay especially well. He is convinced that his rapping skills are his only hope to a better life. Rabbit makes music with a bunch of DJs who call themselves *Three One Third,* and among these is his close friend Future (Mekhi Phifer).

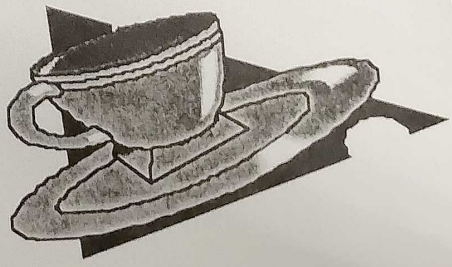
Rabbit's status as a white kid making music in a community where most of the population is African-American, as well as the culture is extremely intimidating. After Rabbit freezes at an MC competition, he is sure that he is doomed to live an ordinary life as a factory rat for the rest of his days.

With the help of his friends, and his new girlfriend Alex (Brittany Murphy), Rabbit struggles to work up the courage and the confidence to take one more shot at making his dreama reality.

8 Mile was shot on location in Detroit: the name refers to 8 Mile Road, a highway along the city's perimeter which effectively separates the middle -class from the lower-class inner-city.

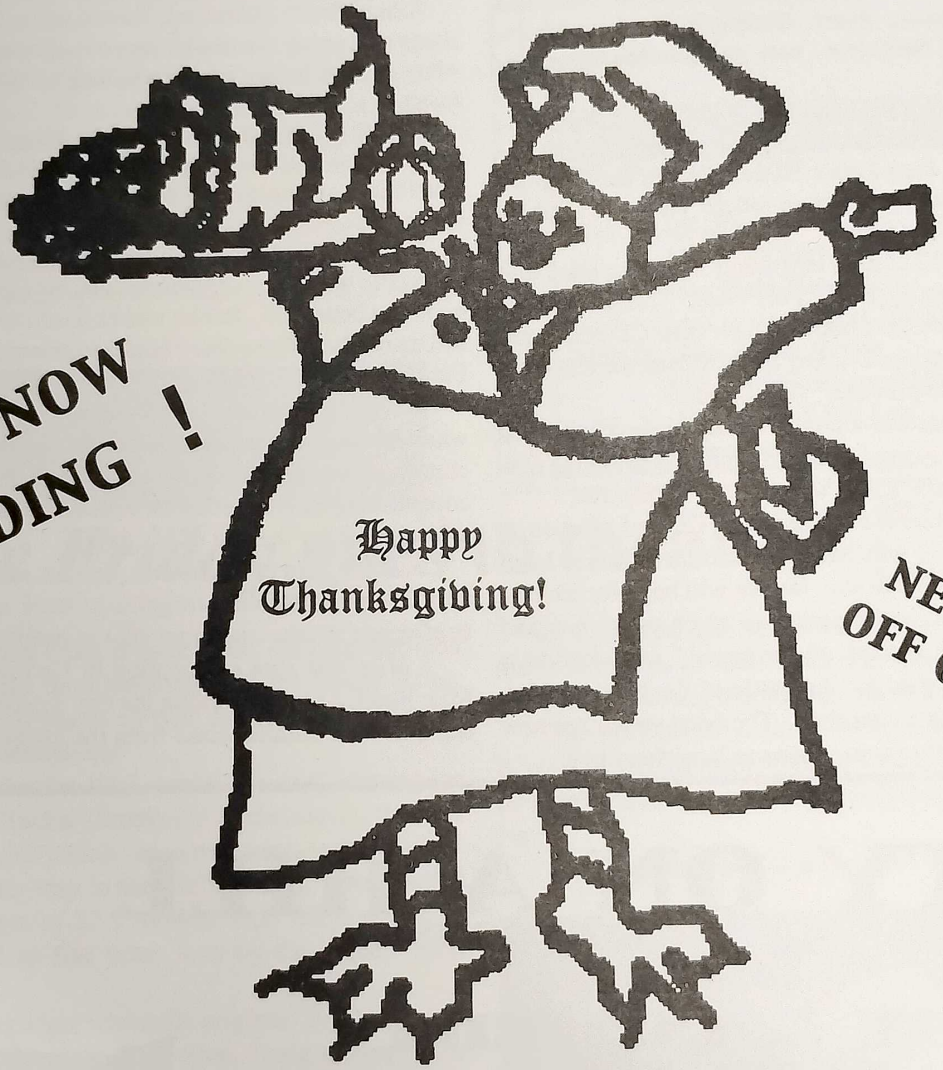
CITY ON A HILL
COFFEEHOUSE

IMPROV ... COMEDY
AS SEEN ON "WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?")



NEXT TO MISSISSIPPI MUD POTTERY
318 E. BROADWAY
ALTON
BETWEEN ALBY AND HENRY STREETS
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:
465-0207

DUKE BAKERY



WE ARE NOW EXPANDING !

NEW LOCATION OFF OF GODFREY RD.

819 HENRY ST.
ALTON
462-2922

Humor

OMG we leik teh humz0r secti0n LMAO!!!!!!11

Telegraph scores poorly on integrity test

Joseph Hilgard, humor editor and human cannonball

Some time back, *The Telegraph* screamed across its front page "AHS Students score poorly on test." "Families with children, leave now!" it may as well have read. The article blasted AHS students, teachers, and administration for a job poorly done on the Prairie State Test.

The story reported that AHS students scored below state standards on Prarie State Test sections for math, science, courtesy, bodily aroma, flaming chainsaw juggling, and grammar. The National Guard was immediately called in to deport AHS students to Siberia, where they could not ruin our nation's glorious scholastic averages.

The newspaper proceeded to grill Principal Trapani for *last year's* test scores, which were from the reign of P. Robbins the Slothful. They listed his responses as blaming the scores on "clerical errors" from last year.

All told, the story took about half a page of newsprint, stretching across the top of the front page and continuing on page nine.

Three days later, *The Telegraph* ran a correction, which was buried a couple pages in the first section, saying that Alton High had not, in truth, met only one state standard, but *exceeded all* the state standards! Whoops! To make amends for the libelous claims of their half-page story, *The Telegraph* allotted a generous five square inches of space.

Y'see, kids, this is what makes *The Telegraph* the nationally respected publication it is: integrity. Only they have the humility to run a contemptible lie across page one, then inconspicuously correct it, much like Arthur Anderson "corrected" Enron's financial records.

As such, for their dedication to aggressive (inaccurate) newswriting and humble corrections, I present *The Telegraph* with the first Joseph Hilgard Shot-Yourself-in-the-Foot Award. It is a prestigious award, consisting of a brick with a threat note tied to it. I will present *The Telegraph* with many of them through as many windows as possible.

Tires off, pal, that's Hilgard turf

Joe Hilgard, humor editor and human cannonball

Principal Trapani has underestimated the bloodthirsty nature of the AHS hordes.

Poor fool that he is, he thought that AHS seniors could, singing "Kumbaya" all the while, reserve their new parking spaces with minimal dischord. His error is understandable, considering that he comes from a quaint rural school like Murphysboro, where everyone grows up with solid Midwestern values, like cow-tipping.

We at Alton are a different kind. Our minds are twisted by the warping influences of far too much Pepsi-Cola and exposure to pop music. We defend our parking spaces with all the intensity of an Islamic Jihad, as they are our ancestral grounds, rich in cigarette butts and oil stains.

Unluckily for some seniors, a great number of students registered for completely random parking spots. One can imagine their inner monologues:

Student: I think I'll register for spot 024, since that's the one I've been parking in for all of this quarter.

Malevolent Mind-Control Ray from Outer Space: No, mortal fool! You shall park in spot 172! And then you will send a footlong red wine vinagrette club on wheat bread to Alpha Centauri! The Malevolent Mind-Control Ray from Outer Space hungers.

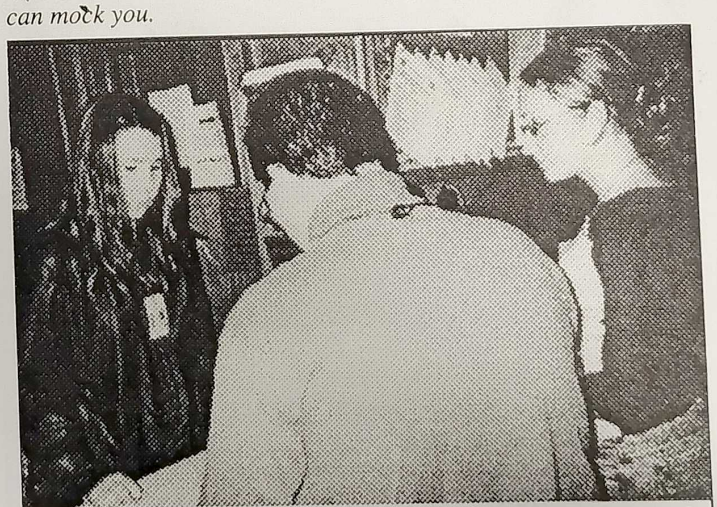
Student: Parking spot 172 and red wine on wheat to Alpha Centauri. Gotcha.

As a result, a few students are too aggrieved by the loss of their ancestral parking grounds to realize the benefits of the new system.

I meant to ask Principal Trapani for his opinion, but I was attacked by ninjas over the weekend and completely forgot to talk to him. As such, I made up a quote for him.

"Parking spaces blah blah nothing unreasonable yadda yadda patriotism something something I don't even care anymore. Joe Hilgard is ugly, and my moustache power shall lead us all to victory. No refunds." said Mr. Trapani.

When I stepped out of line to take pictures, the lady issuing numbers zipped past me. By the time I had realized what was going on, I had lost about 15 places in the line. These are the sacrifices I make for you, dear readers, and yet you want to burn my hair. You wound me. Send your thoughts to Room 401 so I can mock you.



A determined AHS student survives long enough to make it to the eternal reward. Just outside are the bloody shambles of nearly one-hundred and fifty wrathful drivers.

Fuzzy faces in schoolhouse places

Anthony Gater, senior editor and Blair Conners

His alarm clock goes off. He looks over and it reads 6:45 a.m.. He has to be at school in a hour. Unwillingly, he gets out of bed and heads to the bathroom. He stares into the bathroom mirror to find that an outbreak of facial hair has plagued him again. Now, he must take the time to shave his face - five to ten minutes of careful, precision movements to protect himself.

Facial hair has become a "growing" trend at Alton High School. Students grow it for many reasons including: not wanting to shave, willingness to grow, or to look older.

Some do it for the ladies. Bryan Estes, junior, said, "Girls dig it!" Do the ladies like facial hair?

"I think it's hot. I'm working on mine," said Lauren Wickenhauser, junior.

Even the Alton High Administration has joined in the current rise of facial hair popularity. The newly acquired principal, Mr. Trapani, sports a bushy Groucho Marx- style mustache.

Facial hair to some can be a vicious player. In some cases, the people who have it don't want it. Girls also can be attacked by the disease, although facial hair might be accepted too well at Alton High School.

"If Leah McCormick had facial hair, she would probably attract more guys," said English teacher Ms. Hawthorne.

Point-Counterpoint

Joe Hilgard, humor editor and human cannonball

North Korea has gone too far

Thad Goldthwait, professor

We must take steps against North Korea. Their declaration of their nuclear arsenal is a direct threat to every nation. It is even rumored that North Korea has developed biological smallpox weapons.

North Korea is raising its fist out of blind agression, no different than Hitler or the Beltway Sniper. They are behaving as common terrorists, threatening the world with thermonuclear war for their own petty ambitions.

We must rally United Nations support against this assault to prevent an international crisis.

No, you're wrong.

"Rooster" Westin, middle school student

You're wrong. Shut up. Shut up. Who cares? I don't care. Shut up. You're wrong. Who cares, who cares, who cares? Nobody likes you. Shut up. I don't care.

Blah blah blah my name's Thad! Look at me! I like to sniff my butt! I think I'm all smart and stuff! Blah blah blah blah. You're stupid, Thad.

What're you gonna do, Thad? Cry to mommy? "Mommy, mommy, big mean Norf Kreea won't stop hitting me!" Go hug your mommy, you baby.

ALTON XBOX ELITE

AXE

WWW.AXEGAMING.TK
WWW.ALTONXBOXELITE.TK

GAMING NEWS, AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

WE'RE READY FOR XBOX LIVE...ARE YOU?

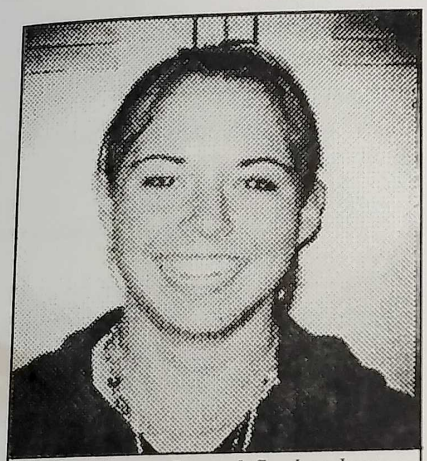
An' I want a strike force for Iraq an' a drilling permit for Alaska an' a bigger military budget an' a pony an' a high-income tax cut an' an economic stimulus package
intendo an' a
d an' a missile
LIST
CONGRESS

Christmas for Georgie

Cappel carries her clubs to state

Erin Hill, reporter

Senior, Carey Cappel went to state this year for the girls golf team. Carey has been playing since she was 10 years old and plans to keep playing through college. She finished second in the Southwestern Conference and shot a 76 She also placed second at regionals with a score of 74 At sectionals she placed third with a score of 76 Carey went to state, and shot an 88 both days and tied for forty-sixth place. She also made first team St. Louis All-Metro. Carey hopes to attend Illinois College in the fall of 2003, and continue her golfing career.



Senior, Carey Cappel flashes her pearly whites for the J2 camera. Cappel has lots of reasons to smile.

Blues make do without captain

Drew Mercurio

Captain of the St. Louis Blues, Chris Pronger told the Blues in October that his surgically repaired wrist was still bothering him. He said that he would likely need more surgery and might be out for the rest of the season.

"I have always been a loyal Blues fan, and I think they'll have a good season anyway," said junior Jim Seymour.

Now, the Blues must determine who will fill Pronger's spot on the roster. The main choice is rookie Baret Jackman, another was young defense men Tom Koivisto from Finland.

The Blue have many veteran leaders who can fill in Pronger's vacant leadership role: Defense men Al MacInnis as captain; Jeff Finley, Bryce Salvador and Mike Van Ryn as defense men, leading scorers Keith Tkachuk and Pavol Demitra, and returning center Doug Weight.

Redbird skaters take to the ice with confidence

Katie Gineris and Blake Schrumpf, sports editor

It is beginning to get colder outside, and winter will soon be arriving. To many that means hockey is right around the corner. The hockey team is preparing for the season that gets under way on November 10th.

Redbirds coach Rick Farrow knows his team has the potential to do very well this season. The team is full of upper classmen and they are willing to do whatever it takes to make their last few games memorable. They lost only one senior last year and ended their season 10-6-1. This recordranked them third in the Northern 2A varsity division.

A new member of the team will be seen on the ice for the Redbirds this year. Forward Ben Waller is expected to contribute to the success of the Redbirds this season.

Senior Austin Luster said, "We have a skilled team, but we just need to work as a team." The team will be looking towards Luster to guide them.

"We will do really well this season," Senior Jason Plunk said. Plunk will be another leader on the ice for the Redbirds.

Powder puff players get rough and tough

Erin Hill, reporter

Every year the senior and junior girls get ready for an intense game of football. A lot of girls look forward to becoming upperclassmen just to have the privilege of playing in the game. All students who decided to participate in the game had to have a physical on file and a waiver signed before they could go to any practices much less play in the game. Eligibility is also looked at before a student can join the team. " It is very difficult working with the girls, but hopefully they learned something," says Anthony Gater, a senior powder puff coach.

When the players got to the stadium the field was covered in puddles and mud, so it was a pretty messy game. There was a teacher kickline at half time and Mrs. Chin was voted favorite teacher. There was also a half time dance performed by the senior and junior cheerleaders. The seniors won the game with a score of 24-0 but both teams did a good job.

NCAA Basketball Forecast

The Fighting Illini are in fighting form

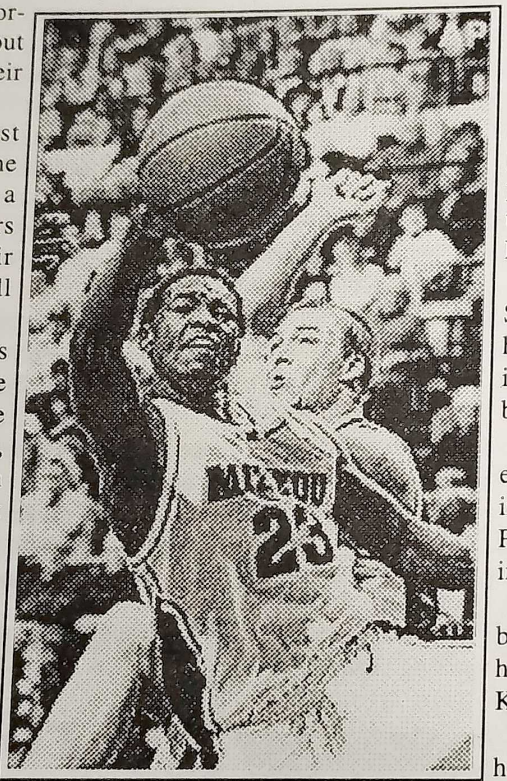
By Jeff McDonald

University of Illinois is still on the upswing from their strong season last year, when they were ranked as high as No. 2 in the national polls. The team is looking forward to a productive 2002-2003 season, but will have to overcome some hurdles in their path to the playoffs.

Starting guard Frank Williams, last year's Big Ten Conference Player of the Year, was drafted by the NBA, leaving a gaping hole in the roster. 2002 seniors Corey Bradford, Lucas Johnson, Damir Krupalija, and Robert Archibald have all also moved on.

Nevertheless, Illinois coach Bill Self is optimistic. "This is the most excited I've been to coach a single season since I've been a head coach," he said. This season, the Illini's hopes rest on 6'10" senior Brian Cook. Cook, the team's leading scorer last year, will be at the center of the Illinois offensive strategy.

The team will benefit from some new blood, freshmen Dee Brown and Deron Williams. Both were members of the USA Junior Men's national team. The Illini squad also features sophomore center Nick Smith. At 7'2", he is the tallest player in Illinois basketball history.



Courtesy of Univ. of Missouri Athletic Dept.

Even though Self's roster is relatively young, he has his eyes on a third-straight Big Ten championship. "We have some good players who many people don't know are good players," he asserted.

The Illini opened their season November 24 against Lehigh.

Mizzou is ranked 19th in nation

By Jeff McDonald

University of Missouri head coach Quin Snyder has big expectations for his Tigers, who made the Elite Eight last season with a 24-12 record. The team will be led by forward Rickey Paulding.

Paulding, a junior who was selected for the All-Big 12 first team in the preseason polls, averaged 11.9 points and 3.9 rebounds per game last season. He will have the support of junior Arthur Johnson, a Big 12 third-teamer, and talented freshman Jimmy McKinney.

Last year, McKinney led Vashon High School to the Missouri State title. They will have to replace Clarence Gilbert, a graduating senior, and Kareem Rush, who was drafted by the Los Angeles Lakers.

This year, the team has put on a strong enough performance to grab the 19th ranking in the Associated Press National Preseason Poll. They were also selected to finish fourth in the Big 12 Conference in the coaches' poll.

Many consider Missouri's conference to be the hardest in the league. The Tigers will have to square off against NCAA powerhouse Kansas for the 2002-2003 conference title.

With their high ranking, the Mizzou team has a lot to live up to. "I feel that the team will make it far as soon as we get that strong bond. We have a bond right now, but it's not as strong as it needs to be eventually. We're working on things to help us get better," said freshman forward Jeffrey Ferguson.

The Tigers opened their season on November 22 against American University.

Energetic AHS wrestlers take the mat

By Alicia Johnson

Alton High Wrestling is off to an energetic start. Preseason conditioning began in October, but the real practices started November 11. Wrestling coach Eric Roberson is looking forward to a good season.

"Last year, we were 15-8, and we only lost two seniors, so we should do better this year," explained Roberson.

Senior Dan Genisio is also ready to get the season started. "I am anxious about this year and I hope we do well," said Genisio, a fourth-year wrestler.

This year's roster includes about 45 wrestlers, 20 of whom are new to the team. Genisio, as well as Chris Childers, Mark Erwin, Ben Laux, Tony Pfeifer, and Matt Sutphin, are the returning seniors.

Alton's first match is at Springfield on November 26. They face Collinsville in their first home match on November 27. Roberson's goal this year is to be one of the top two teams in the conference. "I hope to send as many as four boys to State this year," he said.

In loving memory of Alex Weber and Marco Riddelspriger

Tthey are loved, and will be missed.

Why cry?,
it will pass by,
these times are bad,
we all feel sad,
a new day passes,
take a look at the glasses,
half empty or half full,
death takes a toll,
everyone's life ends,
we all need the friends,
to be there to cry,
to remember us when we die.

An original poem by Zac West, RBW staff

Amy's Antics

Redbird random award of the month

Most spirited licence plate
Winner: Jared Brynildsen, senior

Strange yet true

~ 0.3% of all road accidents in Canada involve a Moose.

~ One out of four Americans do not know what their astrological sign is.

~ 1,314 phone calls will be misplaced by telecom services every minute.

~ Thirteen people a year are killed by vending machines falling on them.

~ 2,500 newborn babies will be dropped in the next month.

~ 22,000 checks will be deducted from the wrong bank accounts in the next hour.

~ 40% of women have hurled footwear at a man.

~ 50% of bank robberies take place on Friday.

~ 57% of British school kids think Germany is the most boring country in Europe.

~60% of electrocutions occur while talking on the phone during a thunderstorm.

~ 7% of Americans think Elvis is alive.

~ 90% of women who walk into a department store immediately turn to the right.

~ 97% of Canadians say they would not borrow a toothbrush if they forgot to pack their own.

~ About 5% of Americans claim to have talked to the devil personally.

~ Australian Graham Barker extracted his own belly button fluff every day for eighteen years and acquired a record-breaking amount of fluff. He hopes to accumulate enough fluff to stuff a pillow.

~ A person is more likely to be killed by a champagne cork than a poisonous spider.

~ Dustin Phillips of the U.S. has the record for ketchup drinking. He drank a fourteen ounce bottle of tomato ketchup through a 1/4 inch straw in thirty three seconds on September 23, 1999.

courtesy of http://www.amusingfacts.com/facts/Statistics/more4.html

Sign of the month: Sagittarius

Sagittarius is the astrological sign of those with birthdays that fall between November 23 to December 21. The sign's corresponding constellation is the Archer.

Sagittarius are optimistic, freedom-loving, jovial, good-humored, honest, straightforward, intellectual and philosophical. They are also blindly optimistic, careless, irresponsible, superficial, tactless and restless.

Sagittarians like traveling, inturpreting laws, getting to the heart of a matter and enjoying freedom. They dislike hearing conspiracy theories, being tied down (domestically), being constrained and being bothered with details.

Archers are usually religious and have a strong sense of right and wrong. They love to initiate new projects and are wonderful researchers. They are quick-minded, intuative and original thinkers. Archers tend to be strong willed and are good at organizing.

Sagittarians are loyal outside of romantic relationships. Archers, when angered, make an art of revenge. They are prone to anger and get mad about little things.

information courtesy of http://www.astrology-online.com/persn.html

Wordfind

Thanksgiving	Turkey	Pilgrims
Potatoes	Gravy	Family
Pumpkin Pie	Cornucopia	Maize
Indians	Corn	Yard Work
Parade	Football	Chilly
Table	Yummy	

G C F R A N D B N R O C
E N P O R R I E S E K O
E T I O O V Z C X D R R
I A L V T T A S B A O N
P B G N I A B Y I R W U
N L R M N G T A Y A D C
I E I D D R S O L P R O
K Y M E I A T K E L A P
P U S Z A V A H N S Y I
M M F I N Y L I M A F A
U M G A S K Y L L I H C
P Y H M J L Y E K R U T